

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

JANUARY 28, 1858.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. DAVIS made the following

REPORT.

[To accompany Bill S. 101.]

The Committee on Military Affairs, to whom was referred the memorial of Mrs. Agatha O'Brien, widow of Brevet Major J. P. J. O'Brien, having had the same under consideration, report :

The memorialist states “ that her late husband was assistant quartermaster United States army from 1847 to the time of his death, and, as such, disbursed large sums of public money at various places, particularly at Camargo, Mexico, and Indianola, Texas ; that while actually in the performance of his duties * * * he was seized with cholera and died after a few hours' illness, at Indianola, on March 31, 1850, necessarily leaving his accounts in a very unsettled condition. Upon a settlement of his accounts at the treasury, a balance of about seven hundred dollars stands charged against him, while his pay and emoluments, for the quarter ending on the day he died, are to his credit, \$335 50.

The memorialist prays for the passage of an act for her relief, directing that the balance to the debit of her late husband be cancelled, and that the quarter's pay due him on March 31, 1850, be paid to her.

The committee, in investigating this case, find the facts to be substantially as stated above, except that Major O'Brien is also largely indebted to the United States, since 1847, on property account. But in view of the circumstances of his sudden death ; that he was ever zealous and scrupulous in the discharge of his duty ; that he was a brave and gallant officer ; that he leaves a widow and children in a destitute condition, the committee report a bill for the relief of the memorialist, directing that she be paid the amount due her late husband, as pay and emoluments, from the day he was last paid until the day of his death, to wit : from December 31, 1849, to March 31, 1850, and that the balance thereafter standing against him on the books of the treasury be cancelled.

